

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraph on Page 1, above line 1:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of German Application No. 103 26 863.4 filed June 14, 2003. Applicants also claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §365 of PCT/EP2004/006338 filed June 11, 2004. The international application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.--

Page 1, add the following new paragraph after the second paragraph:

--DE 102 23 730 A1 discloses a radial piston pump in which the sliding surfaces on the runner roller and on the piston have a ceramic coating. In a radial piston pump according to EP 0851 120 A2, a self-lubricating layer is arranged between the piston and the running roller.--

Same page, amend the third paragraph to read as follows:

--~~By contrast, the~~ The present invention is based on the object of further developing a radial piston pump of the type

described in the introduction in such a manner as to increase its reliability.--

Same page, penultimate line, to page 2, line 15, amend this paragraph to read as follows:

--The susceptibility of the piston footplate/running roller sliding pairing to wear is significantly reduced by virtue of the fact that, for the first time, at least that surface of the piston footplate which is in contact with the circumferential surface of the running roller consists of ~~a wear-resistant material, namely of hard metal, a ceramic material,~~ a cast carbide material or cermet. The materials listed have a significantly higher modulus of elasticity compared to the steel materials used hitherto, which results in reduced deformation under load and consequently also in a more uniform surface pressure without significant stress peaks. ~~If ceramic materials are used, in particular their lower weight plays an advantageous role, since the piston footplate together with the piston is accelerated and decelerated at a high frequency, and consequently the mass inertia is significantly reduced.--~~

Page 2, lines 25 to 33, amend this paragraph to read as follows:

~~--If a ceramic material is used, this material preferably contains silicon nitride Si_3N_4 and has a surface roughness R_z of between 0.15 μm and 0.5 μm .~~ Hard metals may ~~consist~~, for example, consist of G20, GC37 or GC20 and may have a surface roughness R_z of between 0.3 μm and 1.0 μm , while the cast carbide material is formed by a chilled cast iron material, in particular by GGH or SoGGH, which has a surface roughness R_z of between 0.5 μm and 2.0 μm .--